

Remarks

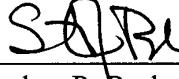
The above Amendments and these Remarks are filed as part of a preliminary amendment submitted before any Office Action for the present application was received by the Applicants. No fee is due.

The present Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 2-3 and 11-13 and replaces claim 1. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter the requested amendments to the claims. No new matter is added by the amendments requested herein. The amendments made herein are requested in order to clarify the invention as intended by the Applicant and are not made in light of any prior art or Office Action received by the Applicants.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1325 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 2, 2003

By: 
Stephen R. Bachmann
Reg. No. 50,806

FLIESLER DUBB MEYER & LOVEJOY LLP
Four Embarcadero Center, Fourth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-4156
Telephone: (415) 362-3800